BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC641

New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC); Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA), Commerce

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) on May 16, 2013 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate. DATES: This meeting will be held on Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339-2200; fax: (508) 339-1040.

<u>Council address</u>: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NEFMC's Scientific and Statistical Committee will meet to review the Monkfish Operational Stock Assessment Update completed on May 8-9,

2013 and develop Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) recommendations for monkfish

(goosefish) for fishing years 2014 through 2016. The Committee will consider additional

information provided to it by the Council's Monkfish Plan Development Team. The Committee

also will review the approach used by the Council's Groundfish Closed Area Technical Team to

spatially analyze juvenile and spawning protection for key groundfish stocks. Other business

may be discussed.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group

for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action

will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after

publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-

Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to

address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign

language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas A. Nies, Executive

Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Dated: April 23, 2013.

William D. Chappell,

Acting Deputy Director,

Office of Sustainable Fisheries,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

2

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